our fourfooted friends

Animal Rescue League of Boston • Summer 1994

Animal Rescue League of Boston

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Our Fourfooted Friends

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Summer 1994
Volume 91, No. 2

COVER:

Dog Days of Summer — Scott Carpenter and "Shezar" enjoy the lazy days of summer in Boston's Public Gardens.

Photo by Bob Howard.

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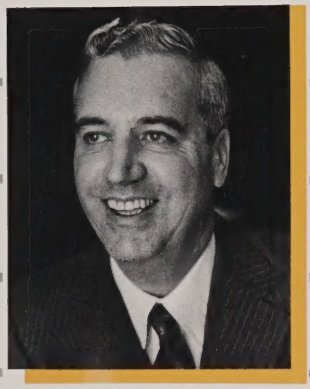


Arthur G. Slade, *President*

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Cultivating Humane Values

It is sad to say that we continue to find a careless attitude toward animals among a growing portion of our society. It takes many forms but some common attitudes seem to prevail. There seems to be a wanton disregard for the living, feeling aspect of animal life — a feeling that animals are things rather than live creatures capable of feeling pain and knowing fear. This type of orientation tends to view animals as having been created only for us to use or to provide us pleasure or sport. There is no sense that animals deserve loving care and affection, and that they respond in such a positive way when given this simple attention.

Perhaps it is partially a product of our "throw away society" which sees everything as something to use as we please, and then disregard as worthless and of no consequence.

In more extreme cases, we see actual violence towards animals in the form of physical and emotional abuse. Such cases as animals being buried alive, beatings, chain collars imbedded in the necks of dogs, severe malnutrition of many species of animals from livestock and horses to small pets and the sacrifice of animals in cult crimes all play a part in creating very tragic circumstances for an increasing number of animals in what we otherwise tend to identify as a civilized society.

It is difficult to define all of the causes of this behavior as they represent various emotional views of a complex society. Some may be the result of the pressures and stress at work in our world, some may be due to a loss of personal and family values and still others are probably the result of very complicated societal changes and pressures.

One thing that is well known from evaluation and research of many cases is that violence in the home among and toward children has a strong relationship to violence directed toward animals, and the reverse is also an extremely likely outcome. It is well documented that children who are abusive toward animals in their early days carry this attitude into adulthood and violence towards animals frequently transforms into violence towards people. Many adults who commit murder, assaults and other vicious crimes against people often have a history of abusing animals in their early years.

Thus, we cannot escape the vital mission of the humane movement in this country to be ever vigilant and diligent in our efforts to instill the fundamental humane values of "kindness uplifts the world" in our young people as they grow up in a world more difficult and violent than ever before in our history. To this end, our educational influence on the world around us was never more vital and necessary. We appreciate your support as we go forward in this great effort.

1994 Annual Meeting

Those attending the League's 95th annual meeting, held Thursday, April 28, at League headquarters in Boston, had a chance to applaud several heroes honored for their humane actions, including some courageous firefighters, a dedicated animal control officer, and a dog described as "one devoted mutt." They also received some sound advice on what to do — and what not to do — when their pets misbehave.

Members were welcomed to the meeting by Richard A. Hall, chairman of the board, who introduced League president Arthur G. Slade, who presented the League's Certificate of Appreciation to several honored guests.

Awards were presented to members of the Lynn and Saugus Fire Departments "in recognition of the heroism and compassion demonstrated during the rescue of a greyhound dog and four people who had become trapped in the icy waters of the Saugus River." Those honored included Saugus Firefighters Lieutenant Donald McQuaid, Kevin Olsen, and James Bonquet, and Lynn Firefighter Timothy Lawrence.

Kevin Farnsworth, animal control officer and animal inspector for the city of Lynn, received a Certificate of Appreciation "in recognition of his exemplary performance and commitment . . . and his diligent efforts in helping to establish the model City of Lynn ordinance relative to the inspection of kennels." This ordinance sets new standards for the protection of racing greyhounds and is aimed at preventing such tragedies as the fire that killed 87 greyhounds at a Lynn kennel in early 1993.

The last and loudest round of applause went to a Labrador shepherd mix dog named "Abby," attending with her grateful owners Donna and Robert Eklund of Dartmouth and their sons Bryan, 13, Robert, 11, and Matthew, 9, who, thanks to Abby, had survived a terrifying ordeal. Abby's award was given "in recognition of her loyalty and devotion to the three young boys in her family when they became lost in the woods during a cold winter day and night. Abby, the family dog, led one boy to safety and returned to stay with the remaining two until rescuers located and transferred the boys to safety." Presenting the award, League president Slade said: "Now that's what I call man's best friend!"

The president reviewed the highlights of 1993 in his report, and expressed warm appreciation to members and donors, and to the League's board of directors. "It is through your support that we are able to do what we do," he stressed. "One of our greatest assets," he stated, "is having one of the finest staffs around, all highly skilled, well trained and totally dedicated to the well-being of animals."

Members of the board of directors re-elected at the meeting include Walter M. Bird, Jr., Rev. Robert W. Golledge, D.D., Holly Kelsey, V.M.D., Franklin King, Jr., Mrs. Jeffrey E. Marshall, Philip W. Trumbull, and John L. Worden III.

The featured speaker at the event was Alan W. Cunningham, animal behaviorist, livestock specialist and a member of the League staff for the past eight years. Addressing the issue of "behavior problems with dogs and cats," Cunningham, who is also instructor at the League's dog obedience classes, cautioned pet owners that bad behavior, like beauty, may exist only in the eye of the beholder. "Often, what we consider behavior problems are only problems from our point of view. What we consider unacceptable may be perfectly normal behavior from the animal's point of view."

In addition to re-examining perspectives, he also recommended that pet owners look at other factors such as general health, nutrition and exercise habits when evaluating an animal's behavior. Poor nutrition or lack of exercise can lead to hyperactivity or aggression, for example, and health problems can create "mock" behavior problems. "An animal needs to feel well in order to behave well," he said.

President Slade presents award for heroism to Lynn Firefighter Timothy Lawrence (center), accompanied by Lynn Fire Chief Curtis T. Numberg, and Father Michael Ferraro, Fire Department Chaplain.

Guest speaker Alan Cunningham demonstrates training techniques.

Lynn animal control officer Kevin Farnsworth (center) accepts his award from Arthur Slade, as Rep. Jeffrey J. Hayward (D), Essex County, looks on.

"Abby" Eklund is surrounded by her grateful family after receiving her award for heroism. Standing, left to right: Robert Eklund, 11, his father, Robert Sr., brother Bryan, 13, mother, Donna, and Arthur Slade; kneeling with Abby, Matthew, 9.

Saugus Firefighters James Bonquet (left) and Donald McQuaid (right) are congratulated by League President Arthur G. Slade after receiving the League's Certificate of Appreciation.

A cat's acute reliance on its sense of smell can lead to two of the most commonly reported feline crimes, inappropriate elimination and scratching, according to the speaker. "One of the main reasons cats will stop using a litter box is that they think it's not clean enough," he said. His advice included changing litter frequently, experimenting to find the particular type of litter the cat prefers, and keeping one litter box per cat, on each floor of the house, in multiple-cat households. To clean up accidents, he recommends using vinegar, club soda, Woolite, or any other substance that will neutralize the ammonia in urine.

Cats scratch surfaces not only to wear down their claws but also to mark the territory with a scent that is shed from the pads of their feet. "They are likely to scratch the first thing they come across when entering a busy area, so it's a good idea to place a scratching post as close to the doorway as possible." To keep cats away from surfaces that you want to protect, he recommended foil, or odor deterrents, like citrus.

"Dogs can accept discipline if we learn to communicate in a way that they can understand," the speaker noted. He advised dog owners to set regular schedules and adhere to routines, which dogs love. "Tell your dog what you want him to do, not what you don't want him to do . . . and never call your dog to come to you for a reprimand, or a negative experience. A dog should learn to associate pleasure with coming when called," he explained.

Some so-called "bad behavior" is normal behavior for specific breeds, he pointed out. "It is natural for a terrier to dig holes, for example, or for a shepherd or other member of a herding breed to chase joggers." He advised dog owners to try to ward off unwanted behavior before it begins by distracting the dog's attention when it looks as if it intends to get into mischief.

Cunningham illustrated his insightful and highly practical presentation with a lively video starring his own and other League staff members' pets.

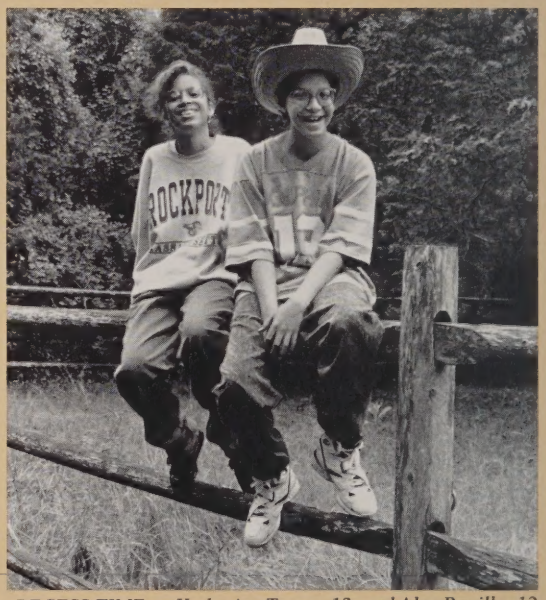
OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

Forty Boston school children abandoned books and blackboards to focus on horses and haystacks for one week this June, spending their school days at the League's Animal Friends Summer School in Cataumet. Since 1974, the League has been sponsoring this special program for students from the city, initially in cooperation with the Charles Mackey School in the South End, and, for the past five years, for sixth-graders from the Mary E. Curley School in Jamaica Plain.

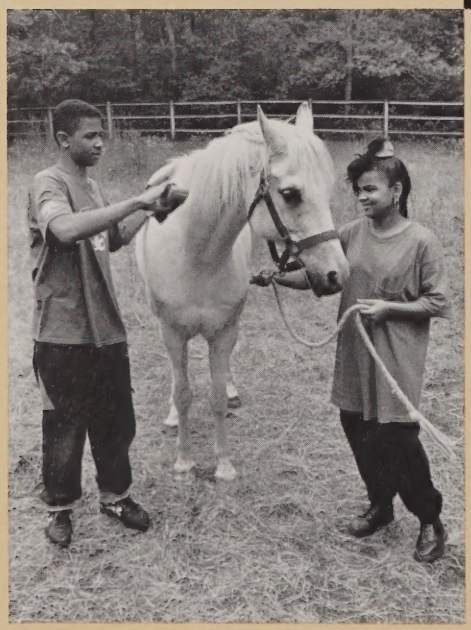
The youngsters had an opportunity to gain first-hand experience with a wide variety of animal life, including horses, cows and other farm animals, study ocean ecology and the natural environment, and participate in a host of craft activities. This unique end-of-the-school-year experience supplements a 10-week humane education program in the classroom covering such topics as domestic animals, working with the animals, and nature and New England wildlife, taught by Edward J. Powers, the League's education coordinator and director of the summer school.

FARM CLASS — "Beth," the camp cow, receives a snack delivered by Jason Clemons, 12.

GRADE "A" GOODS! Sixth-grader Anna Dockery ponders the age-old riddle of the chicken and the egg!



RECESS TIME — Katherine Torres, 13, and Alex Bonilla, 12, practice the fine art of fence-sitting.



GUIDE TO GOOD GROOMING — Gorge Luis, 14, and Sylvia Turell, 13, demonstrate brushing and grooming techniques.

HORSE SENSE — Students learn how to care for "Jay" the horse from camp counselor Pamelyn Renaud.

THE BEST TIME TO CHOOSE A CAT

Once they've decided to expand the family with the addition of a pet, people often devote a lot to time to debating the what (cat vs. dog), and the where (humane shelter or breeder), but don't give much thought to the question of when.

When it comes to choosing a cat companion, timing can be crucial. There is definitely a best and worst time to adopt a cat, determined primarily by feline biology. The American Humane Association observes June as Adopt-a-Cat Month, and for good reason. From late spring through summer, humane society shelters throughout the country are filled with kittens and young cats (and often their mothers, as well) in desperate need of homes. This means that anyone wishing to adopt a cat can be sure of finding the widest selection of attractive and appealing animals during the warm summer months.

This annual phenomenon is a direct result of the female cat's season-related estrus, or heat cycle, which is triggered by lengthening periods of daylight. In most parts of the United States, this occurs in January and February, leading estrus activity to peak in February and March.

Unlike dogs, cats can come into heat several times during a long breeding season. The first litters of the season are usually born in April and May, and are available for adoption in early to late June, after they are weaned. One unspayed female cat, however, can have as many as three litters during one breeding season, because it can be back in heat within two to eight weeks after the first litter is weaned.

Kittens should not be adopted until they have been weaned naturally at about seven weeks of age. Various studies have shown that kittens removed too early from their mother can develop stress-related behavior problems later on.

When choosing a pet, be sure to consider your own lifestyle and whether you will be able to meet the animal's needs. Do you have enough time, for example, to groom a long-haired cat that requires regular brushing and combing? Are your children old enough to understand that a fluffy kitten is not a toy? Would an older, more docile cat be a better housemate for you?

Whether you select your pet at a humane society shelter or a commercial facility, be sure to notice whether the environment looks clean and the animals appear healthy and well cared for. Healthy cats should have clear, bright eyes, pink gums, and a clean nose and ears, with no crusting or discharge. The coat should be smooth and shiny, with no hair loss or scaly patches. Look for an alert, friendly animal that displays some curiosity about your presence. Often, the friendly cat is the one that has enjoyed a lot of affection and petting from an early age.

Finally, remember that the rewards of cat ownership are usually in direct proportion to the amount of affection and attention which you are prepared to give.

Preparing Pets for Baby

By Terrie Bierig-Neyland

There is so much anticipation and excitement surrounding the arrival of a new baby. First-time parents are especially overwhelmed with preparing for this momentous occasion. New parents who have pets also need to be attuned to preparing the animal member of their family to accept the baby during what can be a frightening and confusing time of change.

Pets thrive on the monotony of a routine. The sameness of everyday life that drives humans to vacation is the absolute ideal situation for a pet. Pets feel very secure when their "pack" is on a regimented schedule of waking up, going to work, returning home, feeding them, etc. Pets do not like surprises and the arrival of a new baby is one of the biggest.

It is common for expectant couples to visit League adoption centers looking to adopt a puppy or kitten. Usually this desire to adopt a pet occurs because the parents envision the pet and baby maturing together and forming a strong bond. In reality, countless numbers of animals are surrendered to animal shelters with the reason stated as "new baby." Training a new pet is a time-consuming endeavor that requires commitment and consistency on the part of the owner. Adjusting to and learning how to satisfy the needs of a human baby is all consuming and initially exhausting. The decision to combine the adoption of a pet with the arrival of a new baby are simply not compatible. Animal behaviorists suggest that an ideal time to introduce a pet into a household is when a child is approximately three years old. This places both the child and the pet at a developmental stage where they are capable of receiving and absorbing training about one another.

If a pet or pets are already part of the family unit, there are some simple but effective techniques for preparing them for the arrival of the baby. Several months prior to the arrival of the newborn is a perfect time to neuter the pet and schedule any necessary inoculations or health check-ups. In the event that the pet does exhibit behavior problems following the baby's arrival, one common cause will have been eliminated, that of being unneutered. Pet owners who procrastinate in regard to obedience training an unruly pet are often creating the very situation that they wanted to avoid, that of surrendering their pet for adoption because they feel they cannot manage both the baby and pet together.

Although routines are the ideal in the life of an animal, the arrival of a baby will create an environment where it will be very unlikely for most "pre-baby" routines to continue. Anticipating and gradually introducing the new routines to a pet will lessen any possibly negative reactions to these unavoidable changes.

Prepare the nursery slowly, introducing new furniture and decorations a little at a time. If the baby will be sleeping in the parents' bedroom initially, the bassinet should be introduced to the room far in advance of the birth. This will help prevent the pet that sleeps in the room — or even on the bed with the adults — from feeling threatened by the new creature crowding its "den." Cats are especially sensitive to changes and they should be allowed to thoroughly inspect new items as they are introduced.

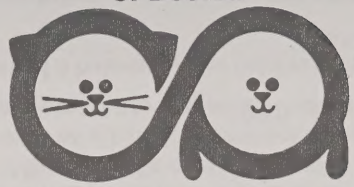
If the nursery will be off limits to pets, this rule should be enforced prior to the arrival of the baby. Allow the pets to inspect the changes as they are made and then initiate the "off limits" training when the room is complete. Enforce this rule consistently at all times of day and night. Close the door when not in the nursery, cover the crib with netting to prevent cats from cuddling with the baby, or even install a screen door on the nursery so pets can see you and baby, feel a part of the activity, but not enter. For pets that ride in the car, install the baby's car seat well in advance of their first ride together and the pet will have accepted it as normal.

Babies make all sorts of noises and movements that can be quite foreign to a pet. If you have a friend or relative with a baby, ask them to visit often and use that time to acquaint your pet with proper baby etiquette. If you do not have access to a real baby, you can still introduce some of the new routines by "playing dolls." Use a doll to introduce what diapering looks like, the smell of baby powder and other new odors associated with baby. Play with, hold, and talk to the doll to familiarize the pet with how you would act when showing attention to a real baby. Watch the pet carefully during these practice sessions and praise accepting or gentle behavior and immediately correct inappropriate behavior in a strong voice, followed by a "sit" or "down" command.

After the birth but prior to mother and baby coming home, an article of clothing, a blanket, or a soiled diaper should be brought home for the pets to inspect. Give the pet all the time it needs to inspect the item and again correct any inappropriate behavior that may be exhibited while reinforcing positive behavior.

When the big day arrives, it is a good idea to feed the pet prior to mother and baby's arrival home. The father should hold the baby while mother greets and lavishes attention on

ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE
of Boston



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the pet. In this way the pet will be well fed and not competing for food or treats, and the baby will not be seen as a rival for mother's affections.

Introduce the pet when the baby is calm, as crying babies can initially distress pets. Do not force the introduction. Some pets may need to become acclimated to a new baby slowly, while others may immediately accept the new addition. Most important, remember to liberally praise a pet that is exhibiting calm, friendly, accepting behavior around the baby, reinforcing desirable behavior so that eventually it will become natural for the pet. Cats may take more time than dogs to become natural with a baby but be patient and continue to show them affection as often as possible.

Associating the baby with positive activities will do a great deal to help the pet accept the new family arrangement. Bring the pet along on walks and car rides with the baby whenever possible. Feed the pet just prior to or at the same time that you feed the baby. If the baby receives a treat or toy, give the pet a treat also even if it is just a pat or hug. Do not underestimate the importance of lavishing affection on the pet whenever you have a free moment. If the baby is sleeping or content in a play pen, take that opportunity to play with, pat, or talk to the pet. This will reassure the pet of its place in the family as well as subtly teach the baby the correct way to socialize with a pet.

Introduce pets in advance to the baby car seat and other new items of infant gear.

New parents can introduce every technique and training hint listed above and the pet might still exhibit signs of stress related to the arrival of a baby. Some signals of stress appear as behavior that is not normal for that particular pet. Stressed pets may become lethargic, hyperactive, destructive, aggressive, or submissive. Cats that are stressed may even urinate on items that smell like the baby. It is best to ask a professional for help in evaluating any stress-related behaviors exhibited by the pet. A behaviorist or trainer can advise a pet owner on the best methods for providing the pet with a little more help in adjusting to the new situation.

The vision of a small child cuddling with a beloved cat or dog is a staple in the idealized world of advertising. The bond between a child and a pet, however, does not just happen; it is created and molded with the help of educated and caring parents.

What not to do! "Corey" feels ignored, as Chad Cunningham, 7 months, gets all of dad's attention.

Feeding time is more fun for all concerned when "Sneakers" and Kristen Powers, 7 months, enjoy their snacks at the same time.

A Veterinary Update:

Farewell to Fleas

By Edward A. Leonard, D.V. M.

Traditional flea control methods, including sprays and dips, in the past have killed only adult fleas, the small, black insects that are visible to the eye but actually represent only about five percent of the total flea population present at any given time. Now, however, a new approach to flea control has become available which allows pet owners to prevent flea infestations from getting established in the first place.

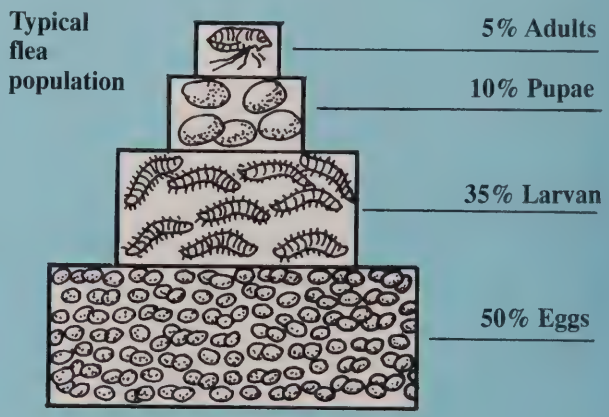
To understand how these new products — called insect growth regulators (IGRs) — work, it is necessary to understand how the flea life cycle operates. The flea's life span consists of four stages: egg, larvae, pupae, and adult. While adult insecticides (sometimes called adulticides) kill mature fleas, IGRs work by attacking the 85 percent of the population that is in the egg and larval stages of development (often hidden deep in carpets and upholstery), preventing them from ever developing into the adult stage.

The remaining 10 percent of fleas are in the pupal stage, difficult to kill because they are protected by their cocoons. But, by using an approach that combines both insect growth regulators and adult insecticides, it is possible for pet owners to eradicate a full 90 percent of the existing flea population, thus stopping infestations before they get started.

Safe and Effective

Based on hormonal compounds, insect growth regulators are not only effective but also safe to use because they affect insects only and are not harmful to animals, children, or plants. These products are available commercially in a variety of different forms. Products that contain IGRs as the only active ingredient are most effective when used to spray the household during the winter months, before flea breeding season begins. Other sprays contain IGRs plus adulticides, are most appropriate to use when adult fleas have been detected, and come in different formulas designed for use in general household areas, on pet bedding, or on the dog itself. Flea collars containing insect growth regulator are also available for dogs.

Not only a nuisance to pet owners and a source of itching and discomfort for both cats and dogs, fleas can also cause serious health problems, including dermatitis, hair loss, and even intestinal parasites. By a combined attack on these nuisances in both their adult and immature stages, it is now possible for pet owners to protect both home and pet, and say farewell to fleas forever.



Press Photographers' Prize Pets

Here are some of the award-winning photos in the animal category at the Boston Press Photographers Association annual awards banquet, held June 18.

"Rabies Queue" *(Photographed at the Animal Rescue League's rabies clinic)*
By Suzanne Kreiter
Boston Globe

"Fly Away!"
By Sandy Hill
Freelance

"Helping Hand (and Tongue)"
By Arthur Pollock
Boston Herald

"Cat-Nip"
By Steve Lanava
Worcester Telegram & Gazette

NEWSFRONT
ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON

LEAGUE HONORS GLORIA HOLBROOK

A roomful of well-wishers, including current and former staff members, friends, and family, gathered in the League's auditorium Wednesday, June 1, to honor Gloria B. Holbrook as she retired after 42 years of dedicated service. In recognition of her contributions, League president Arthur G. Slade presented her with the first Arthur E. Penny Distinguished Service Award, expressing the League's "high esteem and special appreciation for her forty-two years of distinguished service to the Animal Rescue League of Boston, and in grateful recognition of her many contributions to the welfare and humane treatment of animals."

Most recently a member of the League's membership staff, Gloria Holbrook's long career at the League included a variety of administrative positions, as well as an 11-year stint "on the road," from 1960 to 1971, as a traveling emissary presenting marionette performances in schools throughout the state as part of the League's humane education program.

The Arthur E. Penny Distinguished Service Award was established in memory of the late Arthur Penny, who joined the League staff in 1960 and served as director of administration from 1964 until his death in January 1994.

NEW BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

Harcourt Brace's children's book division has recently published four new books on animals that younger readers are sure to enjoy:

Mr. Putter and Tabby Pour the Tea, and **Mr. Putter and Tabby Walk the Dog,** by Cynthia Rylant, with illustrations by Arthur Howard. Both books chronicle the adventures of Mr. Putter and his beloved cat, Tabby, who meet at the local animal shelter where lonely Mr. Putter goes to look for a companion. For ages 6–10, $10.95 hardcover, $4.95 paperback.

Can I Be Good? by Livingston Taylor, illustrated by Ted Rand. This tribute in verse by the well-known entertainer and songwriter celebrates the misadventures of a lovable golden retriever who is eager to please, but even more eager to have fun. Taylor based the story on the antics of his own 11-year-old retriever, Diesel. For ages 4–8, $14.95.

Speak! Children's Book Illustrators Brag about Their Dogs, edited by Michael J. Rosen. Forty-three well-known illustrators pay tribute in story and picture to the dogs that have enriched their lives. For all ages, $16.95.

NEW ENGLAND HUMANE SOCIETIES CONVENE

The New England Federation of Humane Societies held its 57th annual meeting and conference, May 18–20, at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center in Southbury, CT. The League was represented on the program by Thomas H. White, director of criminal investigation and legislative services, and Alan B. Borgal, law enforcement coordinator, whose joint presentation was titled "Building Your Investigation, from Complaint to Court." Other conference topics included companion animal psychology, rabies and other zoonotic diseases, animal rescue first aid, pet bereavement, strategic planning, expanding adoption efforts, and increasing community outreach.

A PATCH IN TIME!

This 20-pound snapping turtle was a temporary guest of the League in May, brought to the Dedham shelter by a New Hampshire woman who found it injured on a Massachusetts roadside after being struck by a car. League agents brought the turtle to Tufts Veterinary Clinic in Grafton where veterinarians were able to repair its cracked shell with an epoxy patch, and also removed a hook found imbedded in the roof of its mouth. After a brief recuperative period at the shelter, the turtle was placed in a carrier and turned over for release to the good samaritan who originally rescued it. She had volunteered to drive down from N.H. so that she could return the turtle to where it had been found. On its release, the turtle gave one look back, as if to say "thanks" according to its rescuer, then turned and went on its way toward a swampy pond adjacent to the road.

"Because this turtle was in a very weakened condition, the woman who rescued it was able to handle it without injury to herself, fortunately, but snapping turtles are normally very powerful and quite dangerous," warns Frank Carmichael, acting manager of the Dedham shelter. Anyone who finds a snapping turtle that is injured, or has to be moved for any other reason, is urged to contact the local animal control authorities rather than try to handle the animal themselves.

DANCING BEAR RESCUES TO BE FEATURED ON NATIONAL TV

The rescues of "dancing bears" conducted by the Libearty Campaign of the World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) will be featured on *National Geographic's Explorer* series, to be aired July 10, at 9 p.m. on TBS, and again July 12 at 12 a.m., and July 16 at 10 a.m.

WSPA describes the program as "some of the most dramatic footage ever taken of the daring rescue of captive animals held by cruel owners." In Turkey and Greece, bears are taken from the wild and forced, through cruel training methods, to "dance" for tourists. WSPA's Libearty Campaign has now rescued all known dancing bears in the area and created sanctuaries for them in the Pindus Mountains of Greece and in western Turkey.

VACATION PLANS FOR PEOPLE AND PETS

For people who are thinking of taking the family pet along on vacation, the '92 –'94 edition of "Touring with Towser" contains full information on 2,200 independent hotels and motels, and ten nationwide hotel chains with more than 5,000 locations, all of which welcome guests with pets. The 80-page directory also includes a listing of bed and breakfast inns and reservation services that accept pets, plus tips to make the trip more comfortable for pets, and information on rail/air travel and shipping.

For a copy of "Touring with Towser," send a check or money order for $3.00 to: Quaker Professional Services, Touring with Towser, Dept. PGP, 585 Hawthorne Court, Galesburg, IL 61401.

HERO DOG HONORED FOR FLOOD RESCUES

Lori Watkins of Imperial Beach, California, poses with "Weela" after the 7-year-old pit bull terrier was named the 40th anniversary winner of the annual Ken-L Ration Dog Hero of the Year award. Selected from more than 250 entries nationwide, Weela was recognized for her repeated heroism and courage over a three-month period during which major floods devastated parts of southern California. Her rescue efforts saved 30 people, 29 dogs, 13 horses and one cat, and included repeatedly crossing a flooded river over a month's time to deliver food to 17 dogs and one cat stranded on an island, pulling 30 to 50 pounds of dog food per trip, loaded on a harnessed backpack.

In honor of the contest's 40th anniversary, Ken-L Ration has published a brochure titled "Forty Years of Dog Heroes," which traces the history of the awards and recounts each winner's story, with photos. For a copy, send name and address to: Forty Years of Dog Heroes, 332 South Michigan Avenue, Suite 900, Dept. N, Chicago, IL 60604.

PETS IN THE PICTURE

1 "He is my best buddy and a most faithful companion," writes Ann Watanabe of Boston, who adopted her cat "Skip" from the League's Dedham shelter last October. "I want to thank the ARL for taking such good care of him," she adds.

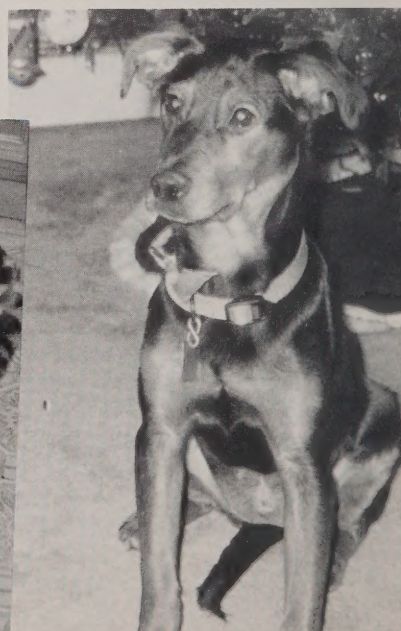
2 "Hammer" enjoys the comforts of home in the Hyde Park residence of Sharon Mulcahy who writes: "He is a wonderful pet, and we all love him! As you can tell, he likes it here also!"

3 Adopted form the League in 1992 when he was two months old, "Calvin" now lives in California "where he has endured firestorms and a 6.8 earthquake," according to owner Anita Roye of Redondo Beach, CA. "Calvin is the most sensitive animal I've ever met, and now acts as my earthquake predictor and all-around danger barometer. I'm enclosing a picture in his youth, enjoying playtime (he still takes this very seriously)! Thanks again for adding such a source of comfort and joy to my home."

4 "Basil" executes a "four-paw concerto for cats" at her Belmont home. Hannah Glenn, age 9, writes: "Here is a photo of my 17½-year-old cat, Basil. She loves to play the piano when I practice."

5 Clara Akusis of South Boston shares this photo of her cat "Mel," a League alumnus. "He is my company, and I love him very much," she writes. "I want to thank you for my beautiful cat, and may God bless you and all friends of animals."

6 "I can't tell you how glad I am to have her," reports Christine Viles of Dedham, who adopted "Lucky" just before Christmas. "I only wish I could have taken all the dogs home," she writes.



A WAY TO REMEMBER

The League continues to rely on the generosity of its friends to meet the ever-expanding needs of our animal population. The cruel realism of inflation makes the League's task in providing needed services more difficult than ever, but with continued support, the challenge can and will be met.

In making a bequest to the League in your Will, please remember that the corporate title of our society is **"Animal Rescue League of Boston,"** that it was incorporated in 1899, and has no connection with any other similar society.

Form of Bequest

I give to the Animal Rescue League of Boston the sum of _____ dollars.

Animal Rescue League of Boston
10 Chandler Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Love comes in all colors and sizes...

...at the Animal Rescue League of Boston.

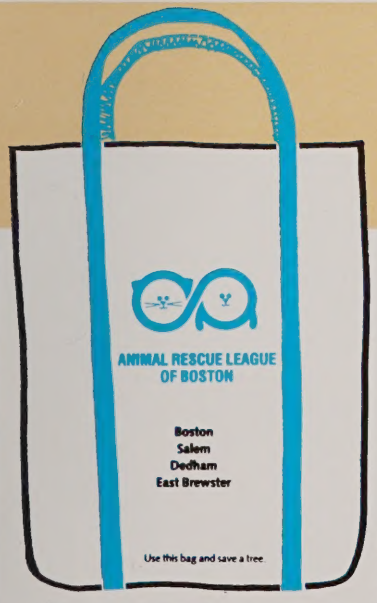
Give the gift of love to someone special this year...a present that won't be too big or too small, too dull or too daring, and will never have to be exchanged after the holidays. With a pet adoption gift certificate from the Animal Rescue League of Boston, they can pick out the pet of their choice—a gift that will bring enjoyment for many years to come—at any of the League's four conveniently-located adoption shelters.

A gift certificate for a puppy or kitten, older dog or cat, hamster, gerbil, or even a rabbit can be ordered by telephone, and charged to your credit card.

Animal Rescue League of Boston 10 Chandler St. • (617) 426-9170

Branches:	Dedham	Salem	E. Brewster
	(617) 326-0729	(508) 744-7910	(508) 255-1030

A non-profit humane society helping animals since 1899.



SAVE A TREE

NEW ARL TOTE BAG

Be a conscientious consumer and carry your purchases in this rugged white cotton duck tote bag, roomy (17″ × 11½″) with royal blue handles and League logo. Priced at $12, plus $3 for shipping and handling. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.

ORDER FORM:

Please send me _____ shopping totes at $12 each, plus $3 shipping and handling.

Name _____

Street _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Enclosed is my check in the amount of $ _____ made payable to the Animal Rescue League of Boston.

Mail to:
Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265
Boston, MA 02117

Memorial Day at the League's Pine Ridge Cemetery for Animals in Dedham.

Our Fourfooted Friends (US ISSN 0030-6851)
Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265, Boston, Massachusetts 02117

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED